UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

July 17, 2003

Dear Hot Food Holding Cabinet Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

EPA welcomes your input on the following *Draft 2* specification for ENERGY STAR® qualified Commercial Hot Food Holding Cabinets. This document represents EPA's final Draft proposal for the criteria and testing procedures that manufacturers will need to abide by in order to qualify products as ENERGY STAR.

On behalf of EPA, I would like to thank everyone for reviewing and providing comments on the Draft 1 specification. These comments were of great assistance in modifying the specification for the Draft 2 release. Throughout the document, the note boxes have been updated to address specific industry comments and concerns and provide EPA's rationale behind making revisions to the Draft 1 version.

Specifically, the Draft 2 specification incorporates the following changes:

- Dual-function equipment, such as cook-and-hold models, is specifically excluded from the specification.
- Idle energy requirements for full-, three quarter-, and half-size models have been replaced by a maximum idle energy rate for all cabinet sizes: 40 watts/ft³.
- A protocol for measuring the interior volume of each qualifying model has been included.
- Test results for the smallest unit, which yields the highest idle energy rate, may be used for ENERGY STAR qualification of the entire product family, as long as the specification sheets for each hot food holding cabinet the manufacturer wishes to qualify within that family, are attached to the completed Qualifying Product Information (QPI) form.

The Draft 2 specification proposes an August 15, 2003 effective date, in which partners may begin qualifying and labeling their products as ENERGY STAR. To meet this effective date, EPA must receive all final comments on the Draft 2 specification by July 30, 2003. Comments should be sent to Rebecca Miller, ICF Consulting, via e-mail at rmiller@icfconsulting.com. All written comments will be posted on the ENERGY STAR Web site for review, unless the submitter indicates otherwise. If no additional comments are received, EPA will assume that stakeholders support/concur with the Draft 2 specification.

Once all final comments have been collected and reviewed by EPA, a Final Version 1.0 specification will be issued as part of EPA's Partnership Agreement, which also provides additional information for potential partners such as the ENERGY STAR Identity Guidelines and Qualified Product Information (QPI) Forms. **EPA hopes to announce an ENERGY STAR Hot Food Holding Cabinet Specification at the NAFEM Show, September 5-7, 2003.** EPA will work closely with partners to complete all necessary documentation prior to the NAFEM Show product launch.

Thank you for taking the time to review the Draft 2 specification. The exchange of ideas and information among EPA, industry, and other interested parties is critical to the success of ENERGY STAR. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (202)564-9124 or schmeltz.rachel@epa.gov.

To track the progress of ENERGY STAR for Hot Food Holding Cabinets, go to www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment and click on "New Product Specifications in Development."

Sincerely,

Rachel Schmeltz, EPA

ENERGY STAR Product Manager